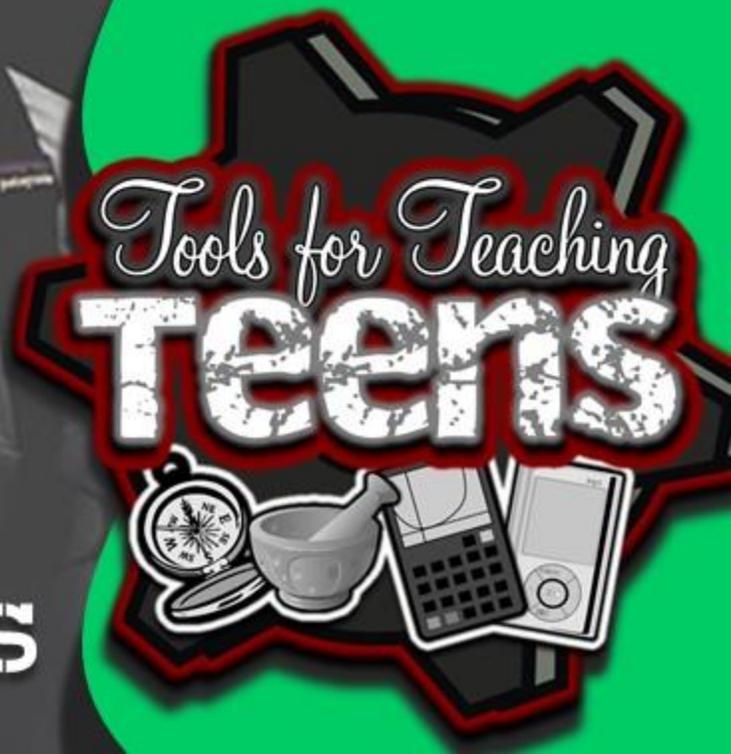


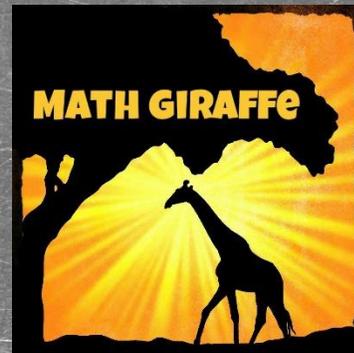
# Back to School

# Grades 6-12

Ideas &  
Printables



# Back to School Activity From:



## My #1 Tip For The First Day Of School:

On the first day, be sure that you have already assigned seats. Have a seating chart and use it to call students by name.

Start out the year by investigating your students' individual learning styles. Use a student learning profile to figure out how your class learns. How many visual learners? Which students prefer structure and rubrics? Which prefer open-ended tasks and creative assignments? Once you have an idea how your classes learn best, you can differentiate, adjust your teaching style, and group students accordingly.

## How to Use the Survey:

Make this little learning profile a fun activity for the first day of school. First, work together to write a list of content-specific tasks on the board. Ask students to choose which format they would prefer. They can start thinking about their own learning style.

Then, try giving oral directions for something simple like binder setup. At the same time, project written directions for the same task that contain one slight difference. See which students were depending on your verbal directions and which were reading the visual directions.

Then, hand out the surveys and discuss the results. Classify each student using the guidelines, and save these to use for grouping. Read more about this strategy [here](#).

## My Favorite First Day of School Moment:

I like to have the names for every student in each period written on a card on the desk. They walk in and find their name. We usually do not know each other yet. Then, when I get started, I peek at my seating chart on the podium to call out a student who is the first one to push a rule or try any monkey business. He/she almost without fail stops instantly and asks, "Woah, how did you know my name??" It makes me chuckle every time.

For each question, select the answer that best describes your preferences.

I like to...

- a) work by myself                      b) collaborate in a group                      c) compete with classmates

When I walk into the room, I prefer...

- d) a set routine where I know what to expect                      e) a surprise or some variety in lessons

I prefer to...

- f) write my thoughts                      g) share my thoughts out loud                      h) express my thoughts creatively

I like to...

- a) sit still when I learn                      b) move around the room                      c) be an active learner

I enjoy...

- d) a clear rubric and defined structure                      e) choices and freedom to be creative

My favorite assignments include...

- f) written work                      g) oral presentations                      h) crafty projects

I enjoy a classroom that...

- a) is quiet                      b) allows opportunities for group work                      c) is always active with games

I focus on...

- d) the details                      e) the big picture

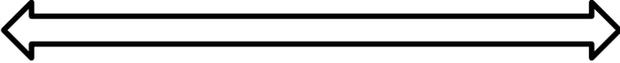
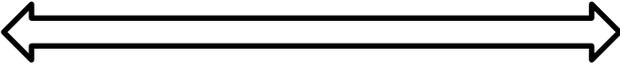
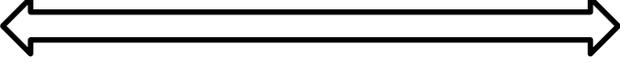
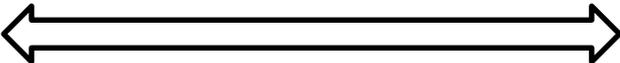
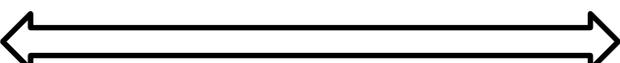
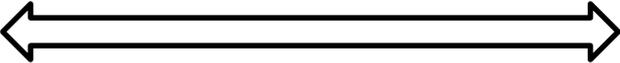
I prefer directions to be...

- f) handed to me and typed out                      g) explained to me                      h) open-ended

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# STUDENT LEARNING PROFILE

For each statement, mark an "x" along the line where you feel your beliefs fall (close to one option or somewhere in between).

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| The success of an individual is more important than the success of the group. |  | The success of the group is more important than the success of the individual. |
| I control my learning.  |  | My teacher controls my learning.   |
| I am motivated by criticism.  |  | I am motivated by praise.  |
| I show respect by being silent.   |  | I show respect by sharing my feelings.   |
| My culture and family background affect my learning style.                    |  | My culture and family background do not affect my learning style.              |
| I enjoy celebrating my own success.   |  | I enjoy celebrating the success of others or a whole group.                    |
| I can perform better if I make some changes.                                  |  | I can perform better if my teacher or environment changes.                     |

# INTERPRETING AND USING YOUR CLASS'S STUDENT LEARNING PROFILES

The way I structured this is to lead smoothly into differentiating using these preferences. If your kids do this worksheet, you will get an idea of each learning style in your classroom, but you can also use the information for grouping. Use the students' responses to group them this way:

Each student will be an A, B, or C:

- more than one "A" response - prefers to work independently
- more than one "B" response - prefers to collaborate
- more than one "C" response - enjoys competition

Each will also identify themselves as either D or E:

- Students who chose "D" more than once are detail-oriented. They need structure and routine.
- Students who chose "E" more than once prefer variety and freedom. They may tend to look more at the big picture.

The survey will also identify each student as F, G, or H:

- more than one "F" response - prefers to read and write
- more than one "G" response - prefers to listen and talk
- more than one "H" response - prefers to perform or express creatively

Now, you can group your students to work with others that have similar learning styles, OR you can mix up some great groups that have a variety of learning profiles.

## DIFFERENTIATION OPTIONS

BY PROCESS – USE LOCATION & DIVIDE THE SPACE

WORK ALONE

WORK IN A GROUP

WORK WITH THE  
TEACHER

BY CONTENT – GIVE 3 FORMATS AS OPTIONS

(SAME SKILL/ OUTCOME)

ANALYTICAL  
VERSION

PRACTICAL  
VERSION

CREATIVE VERSION

BY PRODUCT – CHOICE OF TASK

WRITE IT

DRAW IT

ACT IT OUT

Differentiate the process, content, or product to accommodate each of your student's learning needs.

If you start your school year by analyzing student learning styles, both you and your students will benefit.

You will be able to teach in a way that your students learn best, and they will start to understand which methods work best for them. Be sure to mix up your learning styles for some collaborative work throughout the year so that everyone can benefit from another perspective!

# Back to School Activity From



## My #1 Tip For The First Day Of School:

This may be a strange tip, but remember to drink lots of water. After a two month break from teaching, your voice isn't used to talking for hours and hours at a time. Unless you want to spend the second day of school miming to your new students, you'll need to keep your throat hydrated.

## About My Activity:

Want to learn more about your new students? Have them create a Pinterest board that represents their life. It's fun, easy, and makes for a very interesting back-to-school bulletin board!

## My Favorite First Day of School Moment:

My favorite part of the first day of school is when former students stop in to say "hi."

# My Life

What if there was a Pinterest Board that represented your life? What pins would be on it?

Draw images that represent your life inside the blank pins below. At the bottom of the pin, write a description about the pin. If you're not an artist, that's OK! You won't be graded on your artistic ability.

Blank rounded rectangular box with a horizontal line near the bottom.

Blank rounded rectangular box with a horizontal line near the bottom.

Blank rounded rectangular box with a horizontal line near the bottom.

Blank rounded rectangular box with a horizontal line near the bottom.

Blank rounded rectangular box with a horizontal line near the bottom.

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Blank rounded rectangular box with a horizontal line near the bottom.

Blank rounded rectangular box with a horizontal line near the bottom.

Blank rounded rectangular box with a horizontal line near the bottom.

# Back to School Game From



## My #1 Tip For The First Day Of School:

Although it's important to establish routines and procedures, you also need to

**relax and enjoy the day.**

Everyone is nervous to be there, so make it fun and inviting.

## Game Rules:

Each student needs one game card. Students will get up and mingle with one another, finding people who match the descriptions on the bingo cards.

They can only use each person one time.

Once bingo has been called have students introduce themselves to the group and share something interesting that they learned about another student.

## My Favorite First Day of School Moment:

I love playing a game with my students on the first day. Not only do I learn about them from the game itself, but I learn so much from watching their interactions with one another as well.

# Bingo Directions

For some extra fun, try these alternative bingo games.



Four Corners



The "T"



Crazy "T"

Must be sideways or upside down.



The Kite

Can be in either top corner



Postage Stamp

Must be in either top corner



Six Pack

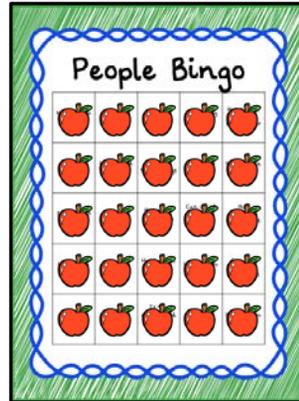
Can be anywhere on the board



The "X"



Walls Up



Black Out

# People Bingo

|                    |                       |                                   |                                      |                                |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Has been to Hawaii | Has eaten calamari    | Has 3 or more cats                | Is an only child                     | Has ridden a rollercoaster     |
| Has rock climbed   | Has pierced ears      | Has more than 2 dogs              | Has eaten anchovies                  | Has flown a kite               |
| Is one of 5 kids   | Shares a bedroom      | Has never been on a plane         | Can count to ten in another language | Has performed in a talent show |
| Has broken a bone  | Regularly does yoga   | Has been to another country       | Has been to a concert                | Can play an instrument         |
| Has been camping   | Writes poems or songs | Is the oldest child in the family | Has been part of a team              | Has been on a train            |

# Back to School Game From



## My #1 Tip For The First Day Of School:

Learn your students' names ASAP! Secondary teachers can have 100+ students, so it's not easy. Make the effort, and use mnemonic devices to recall them quickly, and it will set the tone for the entire year. Message sent—you care about them (and it will be harder for some to get away with questionable activities).

## Game Rules:

Each student gets a piece of the puzzle. One piece has a rule, and the other piece has a meme to go with it. Play music, and students will wander the classroom looking for their matching puzzle piece. Once they're all matched up, have students stick them up on a poster or the bulletin board as a reminder of the rules (use Velcro for multiple classes).

## My Favorite First Day of School Moment:

Students fill out information cards for me. I warn them that I will be sharing their "interests" with the class and that if they leave it blank, I'll make something up. I love to see the look on everybody's face the first time it actually happens. I'll say something like, "So and so spent the summer UFO hunting on a mountain in Tanzania," and the students are all completely confused. "Really?" they ask.

Be In Your  
Seat  
When the  
Bell Rings.



...It's Not That Complicated

©Leah Cleary 2015

Keep Cell  
Phones Put  
Away Unless  
Instructed  
Otherwise.



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If It's Not  
Nice, Don't  
Say It.



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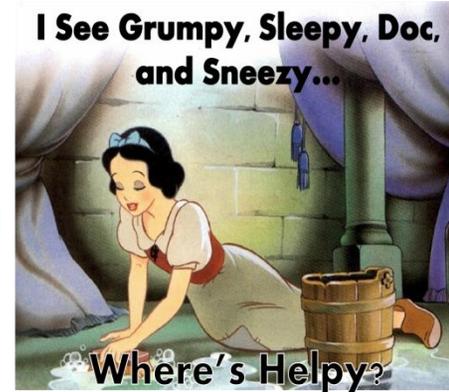
Always  
Put Your  
Name on  
Your  
Paper.



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Keep Our  
Classroom  
Neat and  
Clean.

I See Grumpy, Sleepy, Doc,  
and Sneezzy...



Where's Helpy?

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Listen  
When  
Others  
Speak.

Hey, Girl,

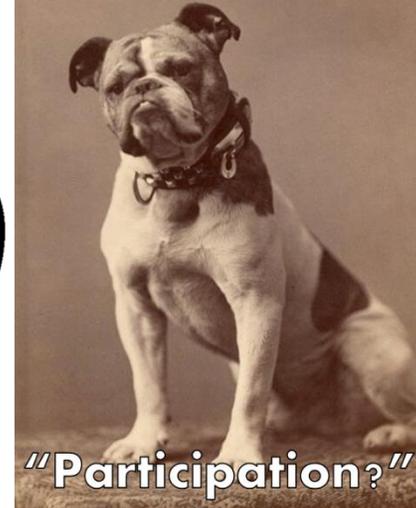


I Wanna Hear  
You Explain  
Quantum Physics.

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Participate  
in Class.

What Do You Mean By



"Participation?"

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Bring Your  
Materials  
Everyday.

All I Need



Is This Face...

©Leah Cleary 2015

Respect Your  
Own and  
Other's  
Property  
(School  
Property, Too).



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Do Your  
Best at All  
Times.



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Be On  
Task at All  
Times.

Is This Book Called "Task?"



Cuz I'm On It.

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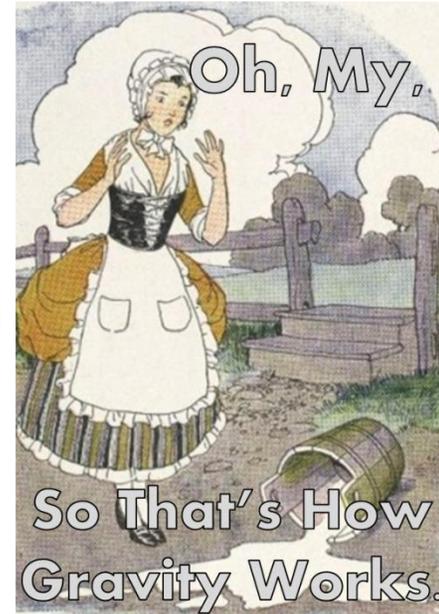
Work Well  
With  
Others.

Frenemies



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Feel Free  
To Make  
Mistakes.  
It's How  
We Learn.



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Begin  
Warm-up  
Work Right  
After The  
Tardy Bell.



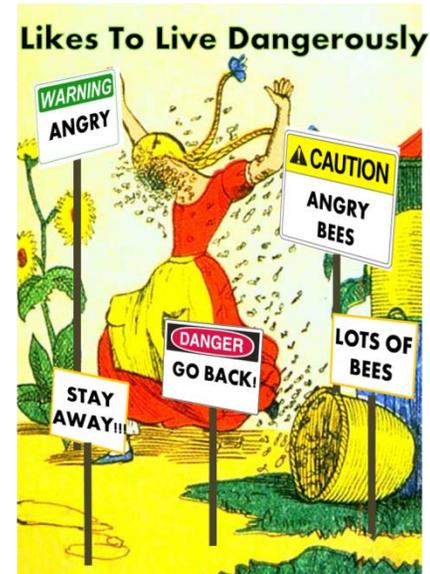
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Take  
Responsibility  
For Your  
Actions.



©Leah Cleary 2015

Follow  
Directions-  
If You Don't  
Understand,  
Ask.



©Leah Cleary 2015

# Back to School Game

From



## My #1 Tip For The First Day Of School:

Help students understand that you are interested in them and that you care about who they are – greet them as they enter the room; ask how the day is going; find out if they need help with anything, especially if this is a new school for them.

When students begin a new year, are they more concerned about the content or about the way they're going to feel in your class? As both a parent and a teacher, I believe that students are more concerned with what the environment will be like in the classroom. They should know from the start that while there are high expectations, your classroom is an accepting one.

## Game Rules:

1. Copy enough Footloose grids for each student.
2. Give each student one of the 24 cards (it is best if these cards are laminated). If there are extra cards, they can be placed around the room for students to pick up as needed. If there are more than 24 students, students may need to share cards (or copy 2 sets).
3. Students answer the question on their first card by writing the answer on their grid (not on the card), in the box with the number that corresponds to the number in the right hand corner of the question card. Each card has a second, getting to know you, question.
4. After recording the answers, students should place the card in a "central location," like a chalk ledge or a table, and then take a new card to complete (or hang cards around the room).
5. Students continue to answer the questions one card at a time, returning each card as they finish, until they fill the entire grid.

## My Favorite First Day of School Moment:

My favorite first day of math class was the first time I started using a Pentomino [activity](#) – students (many of them!) walked out of class saying things like, "Wow, math is fun!" "This was a really great class." It was such a great way to begin the year!

# Footloose

|    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |

# Footloose

|   |    |    |    |
|---|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5 | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |

|    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |

BTS

1

Find the value of  $8^3$ .

**Write your answer in square 1.**

**Then**, if your answer is 512, color square 1 with your favorite color.  
If your answer is 24, write (or draw) your favorite food.

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BTS

2

Solve:  $14 + 9 \cdot 6$

**Write your answer in square 2**

**Then**, if your answer is 68, write the number of siblings you have in square 2.  
If your answer is 138, write the name of your favorite movie.

©MSMM2014

BTS

3

To go on their class trip, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers had to schedule busses. Each bus seats 48, and there are 345 people going on the trip. How many busses need to be scheduled?

**Write the answer in square 3.**

**Then**, if the answer is 7, write (or draw) your favorite dessert in square 3.  
If the answer is 8, write the name of your favorite song.

©MSMM2014

BTS

4

What property says that  
 $5 + 13 = 13 + 5$ ?

**Write your answer in square 4.**

**Then**, if your answer was Associative Property, write the name of your favorite season in square 4.  
If your answer was Commutative Property, write (or draw) your favorite animal.

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BTS

5

Compare, using  $>$  or  $<$ .

$$0.22 \bigcirc 0.206$$

**Write your answer in square 5.**

**Then**, if  $0.22 > 0.206$ , write (or draw) your favorite hobby in square 5.

If  $0.22 < 0.206$ , write the name of your favorite sports team.

©MSMM2014

BTS

6

Solve:  $\frac{3}{4} + \frac{5}{16}$

**Write your answer in square 6.**

**Then**, if your answer is  $\frac{8}{20}$ , write the name of your best friend in square 6.

If your answer is  $\frac{17}{16}$ , write the name of your favorite book.

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BTS

7

Solve:  $\frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{4}{5}$

**Write your answer in square 7.**

**Then**, if your answer is  $\frac{10}{12}$ , write the name of the street you live on in square 7.

If your answer is  $\frac{8}{15}$ , write the name of the state you were born in.

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BTS

8

Solve:  $14.5 \times 3.4$

**Write your answer in square 8.**

**Then**, if your answer is 49.3, write (or draw) your favorite math topic in square 8.

If your answer is 4.93, write (or draw) your *least* favorite math topic

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BTS

9

Solve:  $4.123 + 6.28$

**Write your answer in square 9.**

**Then**, if your answer is 10.403, write how many times you've moved in square 9.  
If 4.751 is your answer, write the name of your favorite drink.

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BTS

10

Write an expression for 2 times the sum of 6 and 4

**Write your answer in square 10.**

**Then**, if your answer is  $2 \times 6 + 4$ , write the name of your favorite ice cream flavor in square 10.  
If your answer is  $2(6 + 4)$ , write (or draw) your favorite place.

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BTS

11

Solve:  $2310 \div 7$

**Write your answer in square 11.**

**Then**, if your answer is 33, write your shoe size in square 11.  
If your answer is 330, write (or draw) your favorite food.

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BTS

12

Convert 0.8 to a fraction.

**Write your answer in square 12.**

**Then**, if  $0.8 = \frac{80}{100}$ , write the number of pets you have in square 12.  
If  $0.8 = \frac{8}{100}$ , write (or draw) your favorite holiday.

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BTS

13

Write the standard form of:  
3 and four thousandths.

**Write your answer in square 13.**

**Then**, if your answer is 3.004, write the name of your favorite movie in square 13.  
If your answer is 3.04, write the name of your best friend.

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BTS

14

Solve:  $322 \times 45$

**Write your answer in square 14.**

**Then**, if your answer rounds to 15,000, write the year you were born in square 14.  
If your answer rounds to 14,000, write your birthday month.

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BTS

15

Solve:  $\frac{1}{3} \div 6$

**Write your answer in square 15.**

**Then**, if your answer is  $\frac{1}{18}$  write (or draw) your favorite school subject in square 15.  
If your answer is 2, write your favorite holiday.

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BTS

16

How many  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup servings are  
in 3 cups?

**Write your answer in square 16.**

**Then**, if your answer is  $\frac{3}{4}$ , write your favorite grade, (so far) in square 16. .  
If your answer is 12, write (or draw) your favorite sport.

©MSMM2014

Which number is smallest?

$$\frac{3}{20} \quad 0.19 \quad \frac{4}{25}$$

**Write your answer in square 17.**

**Then**, if  $\frac{3}{20}$  is smallest, write how many books you read during summer break in square 17.

If 0.19 is smallest, write your middle name.

If  $\frac{4}{25}$  is smallest, sign your name in cursive.

©MSMM2014

$$70 \text{ cm} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ m}$$

**Write your answer in space 18.**

**Then**, if your answer is 0.07 m, write the name of your favorite superhero in square 18.

If your answer is 0.7 m, write the name of your favorite tv show.

©MSMM2014

Compare the numbers, using  $>$ ,  $<$ .

$$\frac{14}{30} \quad \bigcirc \quad 0.5$$

**Write your answer in square 19.**

**Then**, if  $\frac{14}{30} < 0.5$ , write the name of your favorite character (from book, movie, or show) in square 19.

If  $\frac{14}{30} > 0.5$ , write the name of your favorite game.

©MSMM2014

Is 17 prime or composite?

**Write your answer in square 20.**

**Then**, in square 20, if your answer is prime, answer yes or no – do you have a cell phone?

If your answer is composite, answer yes or no - do you have your own computer?

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BTS

21

Is 87 prime or composite?

**Write your answer in square 21.**

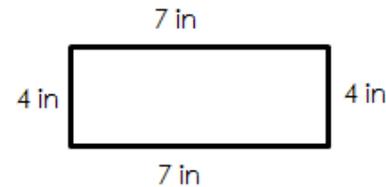
**Then**, if your answer is prime, write the name of your favorite teacher in square 21.  
If your answer is composite, write a goal you have for this school year.

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BTS

22

Find the area of the rectangle.



**Write your answer in square 22.**

**Then**, if your answer is 22 in, write (or draw) your favorite math topic in square 22.  
If your answer is 28 in<sup>2</sup>, write (or draw) your least favorite math topic.

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BTS

23

Solve:  $8 \div \frac{1}{4}$

**Write your answer in square 23.**

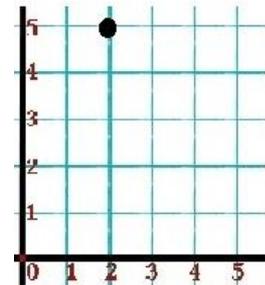
**Then**, if your answer is 32, write your favorite sports team in square 23.  
If your answer is 2, write your favorite school subject.

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BTS

24

What is the ordered pair for this point?



**Write your answer in square 24.**

**Then**, if your answer is (5, 2), write your favorite musical artist in square 24.  
If your answer is (2, 5), write what school you went to last year.

©MSMM2014

# Footloose

## Answer Key

|   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
| 512 <sup>1</sup><br>Favorite color                                  | 68 <sup>2</sup><br># of siblings                              | 8 busses <sup>3</sup><br>Favorite song                            | Commutative Property <sup>4</sup><br>Favorite animal |
| $0.22 > 0.206$ <sup>5</sup><br>Favorite hobby                       | $\frac{17}{16}$ <sup>6</sup><br>Favorite book                 | $\frac{8}{15}$ <sup>7</sup><br>State born in                      | 49.3 <sup>8</sup><br>Favorite math topic             |
| 10.403 <sup>9</sup><br># of times moved                             | $2(6 + 4)$ <sup>10</sup><br>Favorite place                    | 330 <sup>11</sup><br>Favorite food                                | $0.8 = \frac{80}{100}$ <sup>12</sup><br># of pets    |
| 3.004 <sup>13</sup><br>Favorite movie                               | 14,000 <sup>14</sup><br>Birthday month                        | $\frac{1}{18}$ <sup>15</sup><br>Favorite school subject           | 12 <sup>16</sup><br>Favorite sport                   |
| $\frac{3}{20}$ <sup>17</sup><br># of books read during summer break | 0.7 m <sup>18</sup><br>name of favorite tv show               | $\frac{14}{30} < 0.5$ <sup>19</sup><br>name of favorite character | prime <sup>20</sup><br>yes or no – cell phone?       |
| composite <sup>21</sup><br>goal for this school year                | 28 in <sup>2</sup> <sup>22</sup><br>least favorite math topic | 32 <sup>23</sup><br>favorite sports team                          | (2, 5) <sup>24</sup><br>last year's school           |

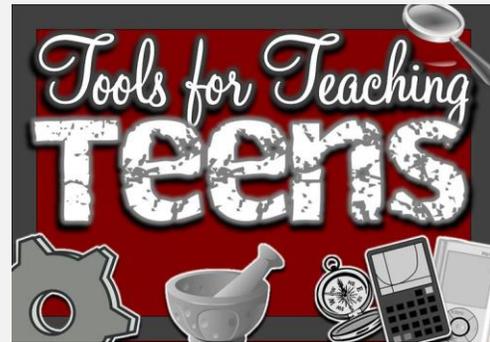
Thank You!



TOOLS for Teaching TEENS

Best Wishes in the  
New School Year

CONNECT WITH US!



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[ON PINTEREST](#)

CREDITS

